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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takamitsu ASANUMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3748

Application No.: 09/904,875

Examiner: T. Nguyen

Filed: July 16, 2001

Docket No.: 110108

For: DEVICE FOR PURIFYING THE EXHAUST GAS OF AN INTERNAL
COMBUSTION ENGINE

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1/8/04
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

01/08/2004 DBREWER 00000001 150461 09904875
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
01 FC:1806 180.00/DA
Sir

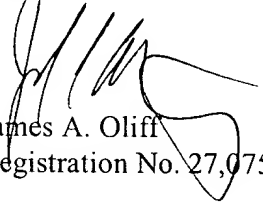
Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ 2. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☒ 3. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the Office Action and an English language description of the foreign Office Action are attached for the Examiner's information.

Adjustment Date: 02/18/2004 SD:RETA2
01/08/2004 DBREWER 00000001 150461 09904875
01 FC:1806 180.00 CR

- ☒ 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.
- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publication has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference A.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: January 5, 2004

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APPENDIX

In the Office Action of the related Japanese application, the Examiner states as follows:

Reference 1 (Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 7-119444) and Reference 2 (Japanese Unexamined Utility Model Publication No. 4-129829) disclose a device for purifying the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine in which a particulate filter carrying an oxidation catalyst and a catalytic apparatus for purifying the upstream thereof are arranged in the exhaust passage.

Reference 3 (Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 63-100218) discloses a particulate filter carrying a ceria (corresponding to an oxygen absorbing agent in the present invention).

Therefore, a person with ordinary skill in the art can easily make the present inventions on the basis of References 1, 2 and 3, i.e., they do not have inventive step.



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Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 110108		APPLICATION NO. 09/904,875	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Takamitsu ASANUMA et al.			
				FILING DATE July 16, 2001		GROUP 3748	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
		7-119444	5/1995	Japan (w/Abstract & English-translation)			
		4-129829	4/1992	Japan (w/Abstract only)			
		63-100218	5/1988	Japan (w/Abstract only)			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: January 5, 2004